

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Examiner acknowledges the amended claims filed on September 30, 2009.

Claim 1 has been amended. **Claims 2-4 and 9-15** have been cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Heidi A. Boehlefeld on December 14, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A portable communication apparatus comprising:

a first housing portion and a second housing portion,
a rotary support member rotatably connecting the first housing portion and the second housing portion,
an image producing apparatus,
an optical input for the image producing apparatus located in the support member, characterized in that

the image producing apparatus is located in the first housing portion or the second housing portion of the portable communication apparatus, and

an optical arrangement comprising a light guide composed of a plurality of optical fibers that extends an optical path of the image producing apparatus from the first housing portion or the second housing portion to the optical input located in the rotary support member.

wherein the rotary support member is movable in relation to the housing portion where the image producing apparatus is located.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 1 and 5-8 (Renumbered as 1-5)** are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
5. **Regarding claim 1**, the main reason for indication of allowable subject matter is because the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, including all the elements of the present claim, that the light guide is composed of a plurality of optical fibers, considering that the closest prior art suggest using either mirrors or prism to extend the optical path but fails to suggest the use of optical fibers to transmit image light received from the hinge to an imaging device inside either of the bodies connected by the hinge of a portable communication device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nelson D. Hernández Hernández whose telephone number is (571)272-7311. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571) 272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lin Ye/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622

NDHH
December 14, 2009